Guidelines for bringing Price Decontrolled Drugs under Price Control.

110. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3473 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th March, 1988 and state;

(a) what are the reasons for not formulating guidelines and deciding criteria to bring a particular drug under price control from decontrol category;

(b) whether it is a fact that arbitrary decision leads to corruption;

(c) whether it is a fact that power to issue guidelines and directions have been given under Para 28 of DPCO, 1987 to implement the provision or empower his Ministry to bring any price decontrol drug under price control; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not issuing guidelines and keeping discretion and sweet will with the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a), (c) and (d) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 is self-contained order. It is considered not necessary to issue any more guidelines.

(b) No arbitrary decision has been taken.

Mark up on Vitamin Preparations

111. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to complaints and pressure from the public and consumers his Ministry took a decision under DPCO 1979 to allow 60 per cent mark up on vitamin prepartions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the prices of vitamin preparations were not fixed for a number of years under DPCO 1979;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a commitment was made in the Parliament after complaint of overcharging of prices of vitamin prepartions to fix the price of these preparations on 60 per cent mark up;

(d) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has increased the mark up from 60 per cent to 100 per cent on certain prepartions and decontrolled the other preparations from price control as well as the bulk vitamins;

(e) whether it is also a fact that there is no decline in the production of important bulk vitamins such as vitamin A, B12, Vitamin C, Vitamin D3 and Vitamin E under DPCO, 1979 rather there is an increase in production of these bulk vitamins; and

(f) if so, what is the justification of such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (c) Mark up was uniformly allowed at the rate of 60 percent to all non-leader Category III formulations under DPCO, 1979.

(b) Prices of vitamin preparations were fixed from time to time under DPCO, 1979.

(d) All single ingredient vitamin formulations as well as vitamins bulk drugs are exempt from price control under DPCO, 1987. Combinations containing vitamins are price controlled and are eligible for 100% MAPE like all other Category II formulations.

(e) and (f) The Kelkar Committee had recommended that all vitamins only when used in combinations in formulations should come under Category II of price control. Keeping the recommendation in view, all vitamins as bulk drugs have been exempted from price control.

Price of Tetanus Antitoxin

112. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY: Will be Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to